

Message Text

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ORIGIN MMO-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SIG-01 SS-15
SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01 NSC-05 /038 R

DRAFTED BY M/MO:RGMAYS, JR.
APPROVED BY M/MO:RTBURNS
ARA/CEN-E. HICKS (DRAFT)
ARA/ECP - A. COOLEY (DRAFT)
ARA/MGT-G.KRIEGER (DRAFT)
L/ARA - F. ARMSTRONG (DRAFT)
AGRIC/BUDGET-R.SHERMAN(DRAFT)
AGRIC/BUDGET-R.DUPERON(DRAFT)
AGRIC/APHIS-J.GENTRY (DRAFT)
AGRIC/APHIS-D.SMITH (DRAFT)
OMB/EROBINSON (SUBS)
-----021927 116913 /45

P 021757Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MONTERREY PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: AODE, EAGR, MX, GT, ES, HO, BH

SUBJECT: MODE - PROPOSED APHIS STAFFING FOR MEDFLY PROGRAM

REFS: (A) STATE 301161 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 039640 (NOTAL),
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(C) STATE 025693 (NOTAL)

1. RECENT IDENTIFICATION OF MEDFLY INSIDE MEXICO (MEXICO
1420 (NOTAL) EMPHASIZES URGENCY OF MOVING AHEAD WITH
PLANS TO HALT SPREAD AND ERADICATE PEST. SIGNING ON
FEBRUARY 21 OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH GUATEMALA
(GUATEMALA 1136 - NOTAL) OPENS THE WAY FOR ASSIGNING APHIS

RESIDENT STAFF IN GUATEMALA, AS WELL AS MEXICO AND BELIZE. ANTICIPATED SIGNING OF SIMILAR MOUS WITH EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS SHOULD ENABLE ESTABLISHING RESIDENT POSITIONS FOR APHIS PERSONNEL IN THOSE COUNTRIES. IN THIS CONNECTION, EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR SHOULD PROCEED TO CONCLUDE MOU WITH GOES AS OUTLINED STATE 025693, FEBRUARY 4.

2. ON SHORT-TERM BASIS APHIS REPORTS HAVING ALREADY DIVERTED TWELVE AMERICAN AND MEXICAN WORKERS FROM OTHER APHIS PROJECTS IN MEXICO TO COMBAT MEDFLY. MOREOVER, SANIDAD VEGETAL HAS ASSIGNED 80 MEXICAN EMPLOYEES TO WORK

IN THE AFFECTED AREA ON THE GUATEMALAN BORDER, INITIATING EMERGENCY REGULATORY AND CONTROL MEASURES. ABOUT TWENTY MEXICAN NATIONALS NOW ON US ROLLS WILL BE REASSIGNED TO THE MEDFLY EFFORT. IN ADDITION AND FOR THE LONG HAUL, APHIS PROPOSES ESTABLISHING RESIDENT POSITIONS AS FOLLOWS:

COUNTRY	US OFFICERS	FN CLERKS	FN FIELD AIDES
MEXICO	3	4	26
GUATEMALA	2	2	16
EL SALVADOR	2	2	2
HONDURAS	-	-	4
BELIZE	-	-	2
AREA TOTALS	7	8	50

3. APHIS PLAN CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A LABORATORY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN EL SALVADOR TO REAR STERILE FLIES (COMPLETION TARGET OCTOBER 1977); TWO FIELD AIDES LISTED FOR EL SALVADOR WOULD BE LABORATORY HELPERS. ELSEWHERE FIELD AIDES WILL INSTALL AND SERVICE FLY TRAPS, INSPECT, QUARANTINE, SPRAY INFESTED AREAS, AND RELEASE STERILE FLIES. DURING THE SEVERAL MONTHS STILL NEEDED TO GET RESIDENT US PLANT PROTECTION OFFICERS IN PLACE, APHIS TDY PERSONNEL WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE AREA AS NEEDED. MEANTIME, APHIS UNDERSTANDS CONCERNED HOST GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES WILL ASSIST IN LOCATING/SCREENING LOCAL NATIONALS QUALIFIED FOR EMPLOYMENT BY APHIS UNDER THIS PROGRAM. ALL EMPLOYEES (US AND FN) WILL BE PAYROLLED BY APHIS. OTHERWISE, EMPLOYEES, PARTICULARLY AMERICANS, WILL REQUIRE NORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE BACKSTOPPING FROM POSTS OF ASSIGNMENT. AGATTS AND APHIS REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE CAVIN (MONTERREY) HAVE DISCUSSED RELEVANT DETAILS ALREADY; THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE SPECIFICS OF APHIS ACTION PLAN AND TIMETABLE.

4. COSTS OF THIS GENERAL EFFORT ARE TO BE DIVIDED, 50

PERCENT FOR U.S., 50 PERCENT AMONG HOST GOVERNMENTS. ON U.S. SIDE, HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE IS CONSIDERING FUNDING FOR APHIS IN THE AMOUNT OF 4.1 MILLION DOLLARS TO COVER MEDFLY EXPENSES FOR FY-77; THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET CONTAINS 5.1 MILLION DOLLARS FOR MEDFLY FOR FY 78. APHIS/ WASHINGTON STATES TARGET DATE FOR PROGRAM COMPLETION CANNOT BE DETERMINED AT THIS EARLY STAGE. INTENT TO FILE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AND A DRAFT STATEMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE FILED WITHIN PRESCRIBED TIME FRAME (120 DAYS).

5. ACTION REQUESTED. COM COMMENTS CONCERNING APHIS STAFFING PROPOSAL, INCLUDING ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR WHICH ANSWERS ARE NOT AVAILABLE LOCALLY. FOR SAN SALVADOR, WE RECOGNIZE YOUR 5736 (12/17) CONSTITUTES CONCURRENCE IN PRINCIPLE WITH STAFFING PROPOSAL. SIMILARLY, BELIZE 0972 (12-08) COMMUNICATED AGREE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MENT IN PRINCIPLE. FOR ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES, DEPT ALSO REQUESTS A BRIEF REPORT CONFIRMING THE COMMITMENTS OF THE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO THIS MEDFLY EFFORT. USDA/APHIS IS CONTINUING TO GATHER MORE DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING CONCERTED PLANS AND COMMENTS OF GOVERNMENTS INVOLVED AND WILL CONTINUE TO APPRISE POSTS OF THIS INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE046122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RGMAYS, JR.
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770072-0196
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703100/aaaadkfc.tel
Line Count: 147
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ad9907ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN MMO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 301161, 77 STATE 39640
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2936318
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MODE - PROPOSED APHIS STAFFING FOR MEDFLY PROGRAM
TAGS: AODE, EAGR, MX, GT, ES, HO, BH
To: MEXICO GUATEMALA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ad9907ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009